

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ISLAMA 04017 250249Z  
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01  
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15  
ICA-11 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /077 W  
-----045438 250452Z /23

R 241114Z APR 78  
FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6856  
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA  
AMEMBASSY COLOMBO  
AMEMBASSY DACCA  
AMEMBASSY KABUL  
AMCONSUL KARACHI  
AMCONSUL LAHORE  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN  
CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L ISLAMABAD 4017

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PINT, PK  
SUBJECT: NATIONAL GOVERNMENT TALKS CONTINUE

REF: (A) ISLAMABAD 3816 (B) ISLAMABAD A-45 (C) I LAMABAD 3697  
(D) ISLAMABAD 3459 (E) ISLAMABAD 3673

1. SUMMARY: PAKISTAN NATIONAL ALLIANCE (PNA) LEADERS MET WITH  
LGN CHISHTI OF THE GOP'S ELECTION CELL 21 APRIL TO OUTLINE THEIR  
VIEWS ON THE PROPOSED NATIONAL GOVERNMENT (REFS). FALLOUT FROM  
THE MEETING CONTINUES, AS POLITICIANS STATE AND RESTATE THEIR  
VIEWS FOR THE RECORD. A SHIFT IN EMPHASIS MAY BE TAKING  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 ISLAMA 04017 250249Z

PLACE, HOWEVER, WITH THE CONCEPT OF A "COALITION GOVERNMENT"  
REPLACING THAT OF A "NATIONAL GOVERNMENT". END SUMMARY.

2. PNA LEADERS MET AGAIN APRIL 21 WITH MARTIAL LAW  
ADMINISTRATION ADVISOR CHISHTI AND OUTLINED THEIR PROPOSALS AND  
VIEWS ON CHIEF MARTIAL LAW ADMINISTRATOR (CMLA) GENERAL ZIA'S  
PROPOSED "NATIONAL GOVERNMENT". REFLECTING ITS INTERNAL

DIVISIONS, THE PNA DELEGATION SUFFERED AN EMBARRASSING DEFECTION AS IT PREPARED TO ENTER THE MEETING. TWO REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY (NDP), WHO HAD BEEN PUBLICLY LISTED AS PART OF THE PNA DELEGATION, BACKED OUT AT THE LAST MINUTE. THEY THEN ISSUED A STATEMENT OPPOSING FORMATION OF A "NATIONAL GOVERNMENT" AND WENT HOME.

3. REPORTS ON THE DETAILS OF THE MEETING HAVE BEEN SKIMPY, BUT THE PNA DELEGATION APPARENTLY REITERATED ITS CALL FOR SPEEDY ACCOUNTABILITY AND A REASONABLY PROXIMATE DATE FOR ELECTIONS, AS WELL AS ITS OPPOSITION TO A GOVERNMENT WHICH CONTAINS MAULANA KAUSER NIAZI, LEADER OF THE "MODERATE" WING OF THE SPLIT PPP.

4. PNA SECRETARY GENERAL GHAFOOR AHMED TOLD NEWSMEN APRIL 23 THAT THE PNA HAD ACCEPTED THE PROPOSED NATIONAL GOVERNMENT "IN PRINCIPLE" BUT THAT TALKS WITH THE GOVERNMENT ARE STILL "IN A FORMATIVE STAGE". GHAFOOR SAID THAT THE PNA WILL NOT SIT IN A GOVERNMENT WHICH CONTAINS PPP MEMBERS WITH "TARNISHED PASTS" AND SAID HE WAS SPECIFICALLY REFERRING TO MAULANA NIAZI. GHAFOOR ALSO SAID THAT THE PNA HAD TOLD THE MARTIAL LAW ADMINISTRATION (MLA) THAT MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT SHOULD SIT NOT AS ADVISORS, BUT AS FULL CABINET MINISTERS.

5. FOR HIS PART, THE MUCH MALIGNED MAULANA NIAZI CONTINUES TO PROJECT A SWEET REASONABLENESS. NIAZI NOW SAYS HE HAS NO CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 ISLAMA 04017 250249Z

"INTEREST IN JOINING A NATIONAL GOVERNMENT", BUT HE FEELS THAT PPP MEMBERS MUST BE REPRESENTED. HE HAS ALSO PUBLICLY ACKNOWLEDGED THE PPP SPLIT, SAYING THAT THE TWO PPP GROUPS, "MODERATE AND RADICAL", DIFFER OVER TACTICS. NIAZI SAID HE SPEAKS FOR THE "VAST MAJORITY" OF PPP MEMBERS WHO SUPPORT "THE VCOCESS OF NATIONAL RECONSTRUCTION".

6. AS INDICATED EARLIER BY ITS PRESIDENT, SHERBAZ MAZARI (REF D), THE NDP APPEARS FINALLY TO HAVE OPTED TO STAY OUT OF THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT; MAZARI REITERATED ON 21 APRIL THAT THE PARTY WOULD NOT PARTICIPATE. THE NDP HAS AGAIN CALLED ON THE MLA TO SCHEDULE EARLY ELECTIONS.

7. COMMENT: WITH THE NDP OUT OF THE RUNNING, TEHRIQ'S ASGHAR KHAN UNHEARD FROM, AND THE PPP FACING A "TARNISH TEST", MANY OBSERVERS HAVE BEGUN TO SPEAK OF A "COALITION GOVERNMENT" INSTEAD OF A "NATIONAL GOVERNMENT". THE URDU PRESS -- AS IF ON SIGNAL -- HAS ADOPTED THE VERNACULAR WORD FOR "COALITION" IN PREFERENCE TO ITS PREVIOUS USE OF THE URDU WORD FOR "NATIONAL". A COMMUNITY OF INTEREST MAY BE DEVELOPING BETWEEN THOSE POLITICIANS WILLING TO GAIN THE BENEFITS OF OFFICE EVEN IF THEY COOPERATE WITH THENVA (REFAIR), AND GENERAL ZIA, WHO, BUOYED BY HIS VISIT TO

SAUDI ARABIA, MAY FEEL A MORE NARROWLY-BASED COALITION SERVES HIS  
PURPOS AS WEL  
NAS A "NATIONAL GOVERNMENT".  
HUMMEL

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** GOVERNMENT REFORM, NEGOTIATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 24 apr 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978ISLAMA04017  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780175-1074  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** ISLAMABAD  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1978/newtext/t19780425/aaaaaurp.tel  
**Line Count:** 120  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** c5d3c9a8-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 78 ISLAMABAD 3816, 78 ISLAMABAD A-45, 78 ISLAMABAD 3459, 78 ISLAMABAD 3673  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 09 may 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2873038  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** NATIONAL GOVERNMENT TALKS CONTINUE  
**TAGS:** PINT, PK  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/c5d3c9a8-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014